

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Assistant Director for Operations

DATE: 9 December 1955

FROM : Chief, Foreign Documents Division

SUBJECT: FDD Monthly Progress Report -- November 1955

ADMINISTRATION

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1. The total personnel on duty as of 30 November was [REDACTED]

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2. Approximately 30 personnel from FDD and Acquisitions Branch, OCR, attended a lecture on "Geography of the Soviet Union" given by [REDACTED] both of ORR, on 16 November.

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3. Since the Credit Union will no longer be able to send a representative to Y Building, a member of the FDD Administrative Staff will henceforth handle Credit Union matters.

[REDACTED]

5. Deputy Chief, FDD, spoke on FDD operations at the Clandestine Services Review Course No. 9 on 21 November.

6. The divisions overtime schedule was reduced 47 percent during November.

OPERATIONS

1. The 58th and 59th meetings of the Subcommittee on Exploitation of Foreign Language Publications were held 4 and 18 November, respectively, and were concerned with a review of the USSR, Eastern Europe, and Communist Far East programs. On the basis of the presentations of the Subcommittee members, FDD is undertaking to formulate a priority list of subjects for consideration by the Subcommittee. The next meeting will be held 2 December.

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[REDACTED]

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3. Reference to the CTS Index prevented 109 cases of duplication totaling 2485 pages. This represents a saving of more than \$12,000 for the month.

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4. At the request of the custodian of vital materials for CIA Library, [REDACTED] a list was prepared of the most important foreign-language periodicals for stacking in Vital Materials Repository.

5. Agreement was reached with CIA Library on types of FDD reports to be listed in the Intelligence Publications Index. Several of these have already been accepted for listing in the current Intelligence Weekly Summary.

6. Steps were taken through Liaison Division, OCR, for expansion of the CTS listings possibly available from the U. S. Weather Bureau and the Bureau of Standards of the Department of Commerce; from the Department of Interior; and from USIA.

7. By agreement with Departmental Records Branch, Office of the Adjutant General, designated FDD personnel have direct access for procurement of documents required for [REDACTED] project. This eliminates a time-consuming two-way bottleneck of CIA Library processing.

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8. Following consultation with the General Counsel, a new caveat to protect against possible suit for violation of copyright or for libel was provided for use on such FDD publications as may require it.

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9. The first receipts of Eastern Europe documents were received [REDACTED] on 3 November and have been continuing increasingly throughout the month.

10. A copy of the Inspector General's report on the survey of FDD was received for information and comment.

11. Far East Branch participated extensively in a working group operating under the Exploitation Subcommittee on the standardization of Chinese Communist terminology.

12. Eastern Europe Branch has conducted a survey of its ORR and IR consumers to determine categories of information which can be labeled high priority, low priority, or marginal interest. The purpose of the survey was to narrow and sharpen reporting to assure maximum satisfaction of consumers with available manpower.

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13. [REDACTED] Deputy Chief, USSR Branch, attended, in an advisory capacity, several conferences of ORR personnel relative to a standardized handling of certain Russian terms.

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14. A current survey of the Soviet scientific periodical situation reveals that [REDACTED] titles are now received and an additional [REDACTED] are expected after January 1956. This compares with [REDACTED] titles available a year ago.

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15. Commendations:

From Division of Research for Far East, State Department, for the FDD scheduled Summary "Monthly Information Report on Continental Southeast Asia."

From State Department and CIA representatives on the Exploitation Subcommittee for the speedy and efficient preparation of the significant report "First Five-Year Plan of the People's Republic of China."

16. Liaison activities:

Department of State

With Division of Research for USSR and Eastern Europe, Mr. Howard Reese, to furnish information on Rumanian governmental organizations and budgets.

With Division of Research for Far East, Messrs. R. Petrie and S. Taubenblatt, to discuss program guidance for FDD reporting on North Korea.

Department of the Army

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With G-2, Mr. B. H. Titus, to supply [REDACTED] order-of-battle information. FDD agreed to submit information as found on a semimonthly basis.

Department of the Navy

With the Hydrographic Office, Mr. R. J. McGough, to obtain certain heretofore unavailable Soviet publications dealing with arctic operations.

Department of Health, Education, and Welfare

With Mrs. E. S. Lowman, to supply information on USSR graduate training.

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Department of Agriculture

With Forestry Service, Mr. E. F. Littlehales, to furnish information on certain translations on Chinese geography and to arrange procurement of Forestry Service translations for the CTS.

17. Special services rendered:

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DD/P -- For NE-5, [REDACTED] rendered special linguistic service on Afghan material during approximately five days.

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For NE-4, [REDACTED] translated special Persian-language material

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OTR -- Performed rapid reverse translations on 22 pages English to Spanish in three days.

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18. Significant reports:

FDD Summary No. 665 -- The Organization of USSR Agricultural Ministries 1947-1955 (collation from 50 sources covering 9 years; represents an exhaustive study of the subject)

FDD Summary No. 709 -- Weekly Information Report on China (presents the Kiangsi Province Five-Year Plan, pp 57ff)

FDD Translation No. 479 -- Gives in ready reference form details on state structure and administrative organization of the USSR and RSFSR.

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FDD Translation No. 487 -- Gives a basic outline of Polish economic organization.

FDD Translation No. 488 -- Stockbreeding in Northeast China (represents a basic research aid for pre-Communist stockbreeding economy)

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J. J. BAGNALL

Enclosures: 2

1. Statistical Report on FDD Operations
2. Details on Personnel Actions

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